

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 5-13 and 16-22 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 5-6, 8-12, 16-17, and 19-22 are amended and claims 3-4 and 14-15 are cancelled.

I. Allowable claims

Applicants appreciate the Office Action's indication that claims 3-7, 9-11 and 17-21 are allowable.

II. Claim Objection

The Office Action objects to claim 6 for containing informalities. Specifically, the Office Action questions whether there is an embodiment in which there is a magnetic coil at the periphery of the excitation coil.

By this Amendment, claim 6 is amended to recite that the excitation coil is placed in the coil serving as the magnetic field generation member.

Thus, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection.

III. Claim Rejections

The Office Action rejects claims 1-2 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,358,432 to Tomono et al. (Tomono). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

By this Amendment, independent claim 1 is amended to recite the features of prior claim 4. Thus, claims 1-2 and 8 are patentable over Tomono. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

The Office Action rejects claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Japanese Patent Publication No. 64-86504 to Narumiya et al. (Narumiya) and rejects claims 13-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Narumiya in view of Tomono. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

Narumiya discloses a magnetic shielding material fabricated from tabular or flat magnetic particles mixed with a synthetic resin, a solvent, and other additives (Abstract,

Constitution). Further, Narumiya discloses use of the magnetic shield material as a coating which can improve magnetic shielding (Constitution, last sentence).

By this Amendment, claim 12 is amended to recited the features of prior claim 14. Thus, claim 12 is patentable over Narumiya.

Further, Narumiya discloses that the base material is a synthetic resin (Constitution). Thus, Narumiya fails to disclose a solidified hydraulic composition as in claim 12. Tomono fails to cure this deficiency.

Thus, claim 12 is patentable over both Narumiya and Tomono. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections of claim 12 and claims 13-16.

Still further, regarding prior claims 13-16, The Office Action alleges that "it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use the teaching of Tomono et al. with the shield of Narumiya since a specific particle has not been taught [in Narumiya]."

However, Narumiya specifically discloses an oxide magnetic material that is a hexagonal system oxide magnetic material preferably having the composition of the form A-Me-Co-Fe-D where A is an alkali earth metal and Me is a bivalent element and D is a trivalent element (Composition). Thus, Narumiya discloses a specific form of oxide magnetic material. In light of this disclosure, the Office Action's asserted reason that one of ordinary skill in the art would have combined the composition of Tonomo with the shield of Narumiya is not reasonable. Because the Office Action has not cited a reasonable motivation to combine the applied references, the alleged combination is improper.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:JHB/ccs

Attachment:
Petition for Extension of Time

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